RG104 E-1 Box 146

Phila 26. June. 1886.

Messrs Savage & Stovell
Philadelphia.

Dear Sirs

I cheerfully answer to your queries in relation to Fused Borax, which we have employed at the U.S. Mint, Phila in melting gold & silver in order to their purification. I formerly experienced much trouble and annoyance with the supply of this article, because of the different results obtained in using it in our purifying processes, as it sometimes made the metal harder & even more brittle, instead of more malleable. It frequently contained portions of the stoney hearth on which it was melted, to the diminution of its value, & often to the injurious & hardening effect on the precious metals. After suffering much loss of time & perpetual annoyance & worry from the loss of precious metal from this cause (the inferior quality of the anhydrous, fused borax)

RG104 E-1 Box 146

I solicited & obtained of the then Director (now called Supt dt.) permission to procure the uniform article of fused borax, at a uniform price, compared with the best commercial borax, which your firm prepared. Since then I have had no trouble or loss in my refining operations on the score of borax, & hope sincerely that I may have no more, as will be the case if you continue supplying as heretofore, which I wd greatly prefer.

Respectfully yours

I A C Booth

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 146

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